

Art 101  
Chapter 1 Note Helper

**Western Culture, major visual arts fall in to 3 categories**

- \* PICTURES (2 dimensional) height and width
- \* SCULPTURES (3 dimensional) height, width, depth
- \* ARCHITECTURE- design of building, may include pictures and sculptures

**MOTIVES FOR MAKING ART:**

- \* The wish to leave behind something of value by which to be remembered.
- \* The wish to preserve ones likeness after death **PORTRAITURE**
  - \* Example: Albrecht Durer - "I paint to preserve the likeness of men after their death."
  - \* **Google self-portraits, and Durer, or click on this link...** <http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/durer/self/>
  - \* **self-portraits**

- \* **PATRON**- Someone who commissions works of art.

**THE VALUE OF ART**

- \* **MATERIAL VALUE**- may have value because they are made of precious metal
  - \* GOLD used in Egyptian Art represents divinity and sun
- \* **INTRINSIC VALUE**- depends on general assessment of an artist and aesthetic characteristics of his/her work
  - \* **AESTHETICS**- how something looks
- \* **RELIGIOUS VALUE**- depictions of Gods and Goddesses make their images accessible
  - \* **Google Parthenon or Ziggurat (stepped tower)**
- \* **NATIONALISTIC VALUE**- express pride and accomplishments of a culture
  - \* Example: Statues of National Heroes, or for example the Washington Monument or the Lincoln Memorial
- \* **PSYCHOLOGICAL VALUE**-
  - \* Human reactions to works of art
    - \* pleasure
    - \* fright
    - \* amusement
    - \* avoidance
    - \* courage
  - \* Example: even in contemporary multimedia, many advertisements use art to evoke a response for their product...

**TURN TO PAGE 10 AND TELL YOUR REACTION TO PICTURE 1.8**, please email me how this makes you feel.... (one paragraph)

**\*ART AND ILLUSION**

- \* **NATURALISTIC**- image true to life
- \* **REPRESENTATIONAL/FIGURATIVE**- depicts recognizable objects or natural forms
- \* **ILLUSIONISM**- when pictures or sculptures are so convincingly portrayed they may be mistaken for the real thing

\***Google Trompe-l'oeil** (means to fool the eye) in contemporary art, or you may have gotten pictures of the sidewalk art that looks like the floor goes on forever, etc.

**\*TRADITIONS EQUATING ARTISTS WITH GODS**- both Gods and artists are seen as creators

**\*IMAGE MAGIC**

**\*CULTURAL BELIEFS**

- \* some believe harm done to an image of someone will hurt the actual person
- \* some resist photographs for fear of losing themselves
- \* **Judaism**- human figure forbidden in religious art, Islamic art developed an emphasis on complex patterns

**\*ARCHITECTURE**

- \* evokes a response by identification
- \* **functional** or **utilitarian**
- \* use of space
- \* how we identify being in a space

**\*ARCHAEOLOGY/ART HISTORY**

- \* **Archaeologist**-reconstructs history from physical remains of past cultures.
- \* **Art History**-study of the history of the visual arts.

**\*METHODOLOGIES OF ART HISTORY**

- \* **Formalism**- "Art for Art's Sake" - art as an end in itself
  - \* context
  - \* function
  - \* content
- \* all three and the response to formal elements and aesthetic response\*

\* **Iconography**- content of art

\* **Iconology**- interpretation or rationale of a group of works

**\*MARXISM**-Process of making art and its exploitation by the ruling classes

- \***FEMINISM**-Assumes the making of art, as well as its **iconography** and reception by viewers is influenced by gender
- \* Opposed to pure **formalism** on the grounds that it ignores content.

#### \***BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

- \* interpret works as expressions of the artists' lives and personalities
- \* have the longest history

#### \***SEMIOLOGY**

- \* Science of Signs
  - \* Structuralism- attempt to identify universal and meaningful patterns in various cultural expressions
  - \* Poststructuralism
  - \* Deconstruction- a work has no ultimate meaning conferred by its author

#### \***PSYCHOANALYSIS**

##### \***SIGMUND FREUD**

- \*imagery
- \*history
- \*creativity

\*\*\*\*\*

This is an example of important information in your assigned reading. I would like for you to feel comfortable with taking notes and being able to construct analytical answers to questions I will ask you during the semester. By reading, and taking notes, along it will allow for us to have meaningful discussions and be prepared for tests.

From these notes...

- \* Answer the questions on Study Guide One
- \* In the middle of the Chapter, there is a question on **Is It Art?** This is a **SUBJECTIVE** question, as is art in general, please write one page, on what you believe to be art. It is a broad question...and I intend for that, I would like for you to look in to **what you think makes something a “work of art” and why.**
- \* You may work on this in class, and email me. Please list examples, and take your time, use resources available to you...there are a million!

Thanks,  
Miss Wratny

P.S. Can't wait to be there

P.P.S. Please join the Wikispace! All of your work is listed there....

<http://art101wratny.wikispaces.com>

Raquel Wratny  
[raquel.wratny@gmail.com](mailto:raquel.wratny@gmail.com)